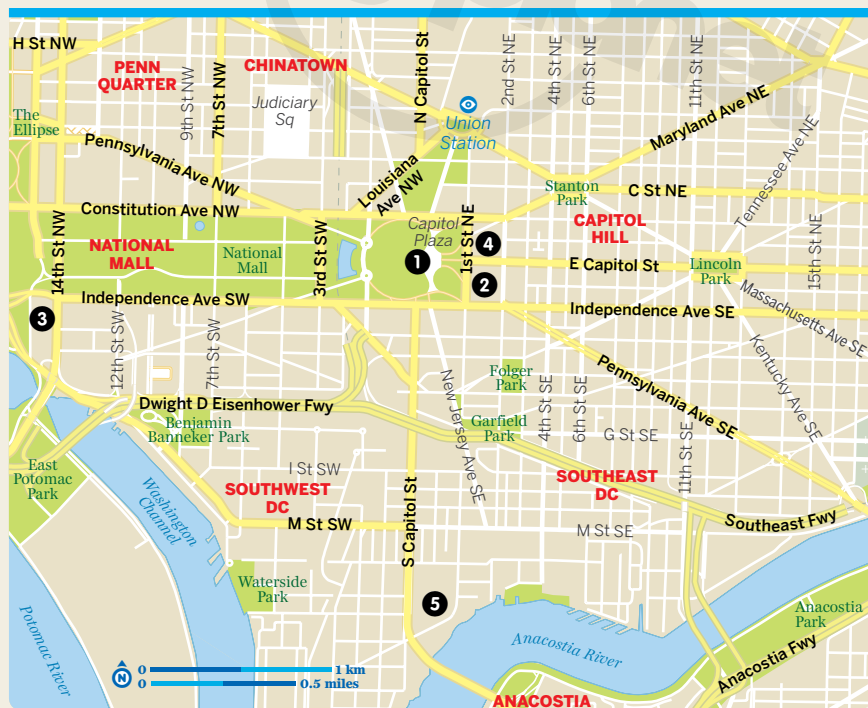


# Capitol Hill & Southeast DC

CAPITOL HILL | SOUTHEAST DC | SOUTHWEST DC

## Neighborhood Top Five

- 1 Count the statues, ogle the frescoes, eat the bean soup and visit the chambers of the guys and gals who run the country under the big white dome of the **Capitol** (p106).
- 2 Be wowed by the sheer volume of, well, volumes at the **Library of Congress** (p108).
- 3 Immerse yourself in the good and bad sides of human nature at the haunting **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum** (p109).
- 4 Listen in on case arguments at the **Supreme Court** (p110).
- 5 Catch a baseball game and see the famous racing presidents at **Nationals Park** (p125).



For more detail of this area, see Map p300 ➔

## Explore Capitol Hill & Southeast DC

First-time visitors will be forgiven for assuming Capitol Hill, the city's geographic and legislative heart, is all about power-broking and wheeling-dealing. Truth is, it's pretty much a traditional neighborhood, where people live in brownstone row houses clumped into a community that revolves around Eastern Market. The feel of the area is more cozy borough than clandestine backroom.

But there's no denying that the big domed building grabs all the attention. The Capitol, appropriately, sits atop Capitol Hill (what Pierre L'Enfant called 'a pedestal waiting for a monument') across a plaza from the almost-as-regal Supreme Court and Library of Congress. They're all DC highlights, and touring them requires the better part of a day. The Holocaust Memorial Museum and money-churning Bureau of Engraving and Printing are other must-sees. They're in Southwest DC, a little sliver of spillover from the Mall. Beyond, in farther-flung Southeast, the Nationals' stadium has sparked development of a mod riverside park and brewery. Frederick Douglass' historic home lies across the water in hard-scrabble Anacostia.

The neighborhood is quite large, so plan on some serious Metro-ing to get between sights. And count on lingering into the night. The eating and entertainment options rock, especially along H St NE and around Eastern Market.

## Local Life

➤ **Hangout** Eastern Market (p125) is the true heart of Capitol Hill: a neighborhood hangout, covered bazaar and all-round great place to soak up local flavor.

➤ **Bard's B-day** On April 23 – Shakespeare's birthday – the Folger Shakespeare Library (p110) throws a party with jugglers, jesters, cake and sonnet contests. It's a big DC to-do for families.

➤ **Secret Cafe** Join Library of Congress workers in the Madison Building's covert 6th-floor cafeteria. It's open to the public, and the floor-to-ceiling windows provide eye-popping vistas over DC's river-sliced landscape.

## Getting There & Away

➤ **Metro** Union Station (Red Line), Capitol South (Blue, Orange and Silver), Eastern Market (Blue, Orange and Silver) and Navy Yard (Green) are the main stations.

➤ **Bus** To reach H St from Union Station, catch the X2 bus on the corner of N Capitol and H Sts NE.

➤ **Streetcar** DC's new line will cover H St when completed; check route info at [www.dcstreetcar.com](http://www.dcstreetcar.com).

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

During the March to May peak season, it pays to plan ahead for certain sights, given the crowds and potential sell-out of tickets. The Capitol lets you reserve tours online for free. The Holocaust Memorial Museum lets you reserve tickets for a \$1 fee. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing does not take advance bookings, so show up around 8am to get a ticket. For the Marines' drill parade, book online starting March 1.

## Best Places to Eat

- Rose's Luxury (p122)
- Toki Underground (p118)
- Atlas Room (p120)
- Seventh Hill Pizza (p120)

For reviews, see p117. ➡

## Best Places to Drink

- Little Miss Whiskey's Golden Dollar (p122)
- Bluejacket Brewery (p122)
- H Street Country Club (p122)
- Granville Moore's (p123)

For reviews, see p122. ➡

## Best Underrated Museums

- Folger Shakespeare Library (p110)
- Frederick Douglass National Historic Site (p112)

For reviews, see p110. ➡